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Doctor says bullets fired behind JFK

LANCASTER, Pa. (AP) — The radiologist who performed the autopsy X-rays on the body of President John F. Kennedy broke a 15-year silence on the presidential assassination Wednesday, claiming the fatal bullets could not have come from the front as some persons have claimed.

Dr. John H. Ebersole, now chief of radiation therapy at Lan-

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caster General Hospital, said his conclusions parallel those of the federal Warren Commission, which said the bullets were fired from somewhere behind the Kennedy motorcade in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

Warren Commission critics have claimed bullets may have been fired from a position in front of the motorcade.

Ebersole, formerly assistant chief of radiology at Bethesda, Md., Naval Hospital where the autopsy was performed, said he was speaking out on the issue because he has been summoned

to meet with investigators from the House Select Committee on Assassinations Saturday at the National Archives where the X-rays are stored.

"I would say unequivocally the bullet came from the side or back," Ebersole said. "The front of the body, except for a very slight bruise above the right eye on the forehead, was absolutely intact. It was the back of the head that was blown off.

"There is no way that I can see on the basis of the X-rays that the bullet came from anywhere in the 180 degree angle to the front, assuming Kennedy was facing forward. It looked to me like an almost right to left shot from the rear."

Ebersole said he has not been told the reason for being called to meet with congressional investigators, but said he believes some X-ray pencil marks may be puzzling them. Ebersole said he marked some of the Kennedy X-rays to assist a sculptor at the request of the White House.

The sculptor was making a Kennedy bust, he said.